

Regulating the duties of county commissioners in this State; also  
A bill to amend the act relating to the sale of Congressional townships; also  
A bill in relation to the sale of saline lands in Orange county; also  
To divorce Nancy Cato from her husband, Jonathan Cato; also  
Authorizing the county board of St. Joseph to employ a physician for the poor of said county; also  
For the relief of purchasers of school lands in Randolph county; also  
To change the name of Aberdeen to Boxleytown.  
The bill of the Senate to reduce the compensation of pilots at the falls of the Ohio, was read a second time; when Mr. Lowe moved to indefinitely postpone the bill.  
Mr. Chambers moved to commit the bill to a select committee, consisting of the delegations of the counties interested.  
The question was taken on an indefinite postponement and decided in the affirmative.  
Mr. Hall of Gibson moved to take from the table the bill to authorize a suit to be instituted against the State of Indiana, by the trustees of the Vincennes University in relation to the lands in the Seminary townships in Gibson county; which motion prevailed.  
Mr. Lowe had a bill of the gentleman from Gibson county who had delayed this motion for a few days, until he received an answer from the trustees of the State University, whom he had addressed on this subject.  
Mr. Hall said he would be glad to gratify the gentleman from Gibson, but his duty to his constituents would not permit further delay, on this question—many of them who had purchased lands in this township, had already made various sacrifices and others would not doubt do likewise, from an apprehension that their lands would be taken from them, or from a fear of a want of ability to defend the suits that were instituted against them.  
Mr. Lowe, in an able argument, set forth a history of this case, and the connection in which the State University stands to this question. He believed there was not a shadow of a claim, on the part of the Vincennes University to these lands, and an agreement, on the part of the State, to become a party would give consequence to this pretended claim. He proceeded to show that when the Constitution of the State was adopted, the Vincennes University was not recognized as having any claim to these lands, but that they would go to the support of a State institution.  
Mr. Hall, in reply, proceeded to show the peculiar hardships which the holders of these lands would be compelled to endure, should the suits brought against them go on—change of venue would have to take place, in consequence of the situation of the Judge of the Circuit in which the suits were pending, and in many instances, would require an arrangement of this kind was adopted, they would abandon their lands and seek a home elsewhere.  
Mr. Lowe again replied; after which the bill was read a third time and passed; and  
The House adjourned.

#### SENATE. Friday, Dec. 19, 1845.

**Petitions &c. Presented.**  
By Mr. Ellis; which was referred without reading to a select committee.  
Messrs. Reed and Parks also presented petitions, which were referred without reading to select committees.  
Mr. Rockhill from Mary Dextaham praying relief; referred to a select committee.  
**Reports of Committees.**  
Messrs. Jones and Henry reported it inexpedient to legislate on certain subjects referred to committees.  
Mr. Lane from the committee on canals and internal improvements reported the bill authorizing a settlement between the State and Gen. McLean of Morgan county; read the necessary number of times and passed.  
Mr. Edmondson from the committee on corporations reported the bill incorporating the Rising Sun Manufacturing Company with two amendments. One incorporating the individual liability clause; the other reserving to the Legislature the right to amend or amend when they may deem proper; concurred in.  
Mr. Berry of F. from the committee on corporations to whom was referred the resolution instructing said committee to inquire whether the best interest of the State is promoted by incorporating the State in relation to exclusive privileges should be granted to any class of persons for any purpose whatever. But while they express this opinion, they are aware that a portion of their fellow citizens differ with them. This difference, they think, originated in the fact, that some individuals believe stealing and swindling is licensed by charters and not only honorable but necessary to the public good, &c.  
Mr. Davis asked if it was in order to strike out part of the report. He hoped that the Senators would not endorse such a wholesale slander. The committee should have been willing to ascribe honesty of purpose in a conscientious opposition to what they deemed orthodox. It has been customary to treat those opposed to measures they may advocate with courtesy and respect, and not denounce them as thieves and swindlers as that report does. He was unwilling that such a course should be approved of by this Senate.

Mr. Edmondson said there was an unnecessary manifestation of feeling. The question was whether or not the State shall be discharged or not. They only give their opinion in a bold and fearless manner. The committee was instructed to report by bill or otherwise. The committee was proper to report otherwise.  
Mr. Conner said he hoped Senators would not be transported in a passion. It was just the report he wished. He had promised to prove to his Democratic constituents, many of whom had voted for him, and without which votes he could not have been elected, that the Democratic party was opposed to Corporations. Last session he was a member of the House. He presented a bill incorporating a Turnpike Company which passed the House, but was lost in the Senate. He charged the Democratic Senator then representing his district, in conjunction with the Democratic members as being the means of defeating it, and he promised to prove satisfactorily that the whole party was opposed to the principle of corporations, and as the means of doing so in part he would move to lay the bill on the table, and that one hundred copies be ordered to be printed.

After some further discussion as to whether it would be in order to reconsider the report, certain instructions, it was laid on the table—yeas 45, nays 5.  
Mr. Verhike, from the same committee made a contrary report on the same subject; which was laid on the table.

Mr. Holloway, from a select committee reported a bill relative to a certain State road in Wayne county; read three several times and passed.  
Mr. Buell, from a select committee reported a bill to locate a State road in Dearborn and Ripley counties; read the requisite number of times and passed.

Mr. English, from a select committee reported back the bill relative to the probate courts of Jackson and Greene counties; read three times and passed.

#### Resolutions.

Mr. Coffin, that the auditor be instructed to report to the Senate within the next session, the amount of appropriations made to the Indianapolis and Madison railroads, the Wabash and Erie canal, &c. Adopted.

#### Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Cuddy, to incorporate the Buffalo and Mississippi Railroad Company; referred to a select committee.  
By Mr. Berry of F., to dissolve the marriage of Joseph and Maria Rudman; referred to the committee on the judiciary.

#### Bills read three times and Passed.

The bill to divorce the bonds of matrimony between John Keller and Elizabeth Keller.  
The bill to dissolve the bonds of matrimony between Leonard Crawford and Frances, his wife.  
The bill in relation to the fees of the auditor of Union county; read three times and passed.

The bill abolishing the office of county treasurers in several counties.  
Mr. Orth, asked and obtained leave, to introduce a bill to provide for the remuneration of Sylvester House of Syracuse, New York, for the apprehension of a negro slave, a fugitive from justice in Indiana; read and referred to the committee on claims.

Mr. Todd, leave being granted, introduced a bill to extend the time to the borrowers of certain funds; referred to the committee on the judiciary.  
Mr. Berylman asked, and obtained leave, to introduce the following bill, to authorize the commissioners of Miami county to settle with William Hood; read and referred to the committee on the judiciary.

The bill to abolish capital punishment was read.  
Mr. Buell offered an amendment, which was adopted.  
[The amendment was to leave it discretionary with the jury, whether they would sentence the criminal to be executed, or convicted to the penitentiary.]

Some bills were read the second time and ordered to the third reading, after which,  
The Senate adjourned.

#### Afternoon Session.

The joint resolution in relation to the Oregon boundary came up on the second reading.  
Mr. Holloway moved to refer it to the committee on federal relations, which did not prevail, yeas 21, nays 23.

Mr. Davis moved to strike out these words: "And his," President Polk's, "prompt withdrawal of all propositions further to negotiate, under the circumstances merits the approbation of the people of Indiana." Senate refused to strike out, yeas 23, nays 25. The resolution was then ordered to the third reading.

The bill for the relief of Thomas Calico was read the third time and passed.  
**Bills of the House.**  
The bill for the relief of purchasers of canal lands;

referred to the committee on canals and internal improvements.  
The bill to divorce John Drummond from his wife Nancy, was read three several times and passed.  
The bill to incorporate the Terre Haute Greys; referred to the committee on corporations.  
The bill to regulate the clerks at executors' and administrators' sales; referred to the committee.  
The bill in relation to writs of error in writs of habeas corpus; referred to the same committee.  
The bill to amend the act relating to the Revised Statutes in relation to the settlement of guardians; referred to the same committee.  
The bill amendatory to the R. S. of 1843 relative to trespassing on the lands belonging to the United States; referred to the committee on claims.  
The bill to change the names of Edward C. Hawkins and Edward Mussett; read three several times and passed.

The bill amendatory to the Revised Statutes relative to costs before Justices of the Peace; read three times and passed.  
The bill to change the mode of appointing the examiners of common school teachers in Orange county; read three times and passed.

The bill amendatory to the act changing the time of holding Probate Courts in Marshall county; read the requisite number of times and passed.

The act to vacate a part of the addition to the town of Plymouth in Martin county; ordered to the third reading.  
The bill to change the names of Edward C. Hawkins and Edward Mussett; read three several times and passed.

To legalize the election of Russell Mitchell, a justice of the peace in Lawrence county.  
To change the time of holding Courts in Adams county; read three several times and passed.

The bill to divorce Jonathan Castro and Nancy Castro; read three several times and passed.  
To authorize the County Board of St. Joseph county to employ a physician for the poor; passed.  
The Senate then adjourned.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, December 19, 1845.  
A joint resolution of the Senate on the subject of overvalued public lands, was read a third time and passed; also  
A bill to attach Tipton county to the eleventh Circuit; also  
A bill for the relief of Francis Lafontaine; also  
A bill requiring the jurisdiction of justices of the peace in Miami; also  
A bill of the House relating to mortgages; regulating fees of sheriffs; also  
To amend the law regulating the practice in the 11th circuit.

The bill to amend the Revised Statutes, in relation to the acknowledgment of deeds, so that it shall not be necessary for an acknowledgment of the relinquishment of rights of the wife to be taken separate and apart from her husband, was read a third time and lost on its passage, by a vote of yeas 46, nays 50.  
The bill of the House, to amend the Revised Statutes, in relation to Owen county was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Hall moved to take from the table a bill to amend the Revised Statutes, so that the word assets shall mean real as well as personal estate in relation to the estate of which motion prevailed, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The bill for the relief of Daniel Dayhoff was taken from the table and lost, on the question of its passage.  
The resolution of the Senate in relation to the election of State Bank Directors was taken up; when Mr. Cruikshank said, that inasmuch as charges had been made against the State Bank Directors and a committee was engaged in an investigation, he therefore moved to lay the resolution on the table, until the committee reported; which motion prevailed.

The bill of the Senate to incorporate the Grand Lodge of Oddfellows was read twice and passed.  
The bill of the Senate to provide for the improvement of roads in certain counties passed to a second reading.  
The bill of the Senate to authorize the commissioners of the Wabash and Erie canal to employ a physician passed to a second reading.

The bill of the Senate to correct a misprint in an act in relation to the administrators of John Cook; read three times and passed.  
Several other bills of the Senate were read and passed to the further action of the House.

The bill of the Senate for the payment of tolls on the Wabash and Erie canal in par funds was read twice and referred to the committee on canals and internal improvements.

A considerable portion of this day was consumed in the discussion of an amendment reported by Mr. Carr, from the committee on corporations, (making stockholders individually liable,) to the bill incorporating the Logansport and Rochester Michigan Road Company; a report of which has been given in our Tri-Weekly. The amendment failed by a vote of yeas 28, nays 69.

YEAS—Messrs. Bowman, Burns, Carr, Cook, Edickoff, Fuller, Logan, McDonald, Rickles, Monney, Moore, Osborne, S. Scott, Smith, Secret, Shanks, Slater, Stebb, Tedford, Turner, Vandever, Webb, Webster, Wiley, Wilson of N., Wilson of S., and Wilson of S.—28.  
NAYES—Messrs. Baker, Blackwell, Brumfield, Cameron, Carr, Carter, Chambers, Clements, Clymer, Coffin, Condit, Cookerly, Cornelius, Cox, Davis, Dole, Downing, Edwards, Ellis, Ferguson, Ford, Hall of Gibson, Hall of Warren, Harbeck, Hazlett, Henry, Henton, Herron, Hill, Hinchman, Huff, Jackson, Jones, Julian, Kerr, Kimberlin, Lanus, Lewis, Legg, Lemmonds, Lewis, Love, McCormick, McLean, Meekins, Moore, Munroe, Nelson, Osborn, Parker, Pennington, Porter, Powers, Ripley, Roberts, Rousseau, Ruby, Smith, Starnfield, Stapp, Stewart, Taber, Thompson, Tomlinson, Watt, Wise, and Mr. Speaker—69.

#### SENATE.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1845.  
Mr. Henry, from the committee on the judiciary, reported back the bill relative to county treasurers, and recommended its indefinite postponement.

Mr. Herriman said this bill referred to only a few counties.  
The report was not concurred in.

Mr. Herriman moved to refer it to a select committee, consisting of members from the north; which was agreed to.

Messrs. Herriman, Cuddy, Rockhill, Pomeroy and Chapman of L. were appointed said committee.

Mr. Ellis, from the committee on the judiciary, reported back the bill to authorize the names of insolvent persons to be struck off the tax duplicates; ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Logan, from the same committee, reported against the expediency of requiring persons applying to the Legislature for divorces, to give public notice of such intention where one or both persons reside; the report was concurred in—yeas 23, nays 22.

Also, from the same committee, reported back the bill relative to clerks of circuit courts, performing the duties of county auditors, and recommended its indefinite postponement; report was concurred in.

Mr. Winchell, from the same committee, reported against the expediency of legislating in accordance with certain instructions in relation to amending the execution laws; concurred in.

Mr. Parks, from the committee on agriculture, reported a bill to amend the 13th section of chapter 10 of the R. S. of 1843, relative to surveys of lands; referred to the committee on finance.

Mr. Murphy, from the committee on the State property, reported a joint resolution in relation to the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio river at the falls; passed to a second reading.

Mr. Cuddy, from a select committee, reported back the bill incorporating the Buffalo and Mississippi Railroad company; read three times and passed.

Mr. Edmondson, from a select committee, reported back the bill to change the time of holding Probate courts in Dubois county; read three times and passed.

#### Resolutions.

By Mr. Chapman of L., enquiring whether the committee on the part of the Senate, appointed to enquire respecting the State debt, had employed a clerk or not; or whether they had ordered the printing of any paper laid before them or not; and by what authority they had done so; laid on the table.

By Mr. F. Verhike, that the committee on federal relations enquire into the expediency of memorializing Congress to provide a portion of country in Oregon territory, for the purpose of colonizing free persons color in the United States; adopted.

Mr. Logan introduced a joint resolution that the superintendent of the New Albany and Vincennes road, shall be elected on joint ballot of both Houses, and the term of service with continue for two years; read three times and passed.

#### Bills introduced.

By Mr. Buell, in relation to the duties of the clerk of the Dearborn circuit court; read three times and passed.  
By Mr. Miller, to attach additional territory to Crawford county; laid on the table.

By Mr. Berry of F., to extend the time of the February term of the Franklin circuit court; read three times and passed.

By Mr. Coffin, in relation to the Wabash and Erie canal lands; referred to the committee on canals and internal improvements.

The bill to establish a State road in the counties of Putnam and Clay.  
The bill to amend the third time of Russell Mitchell, a justice of the peace in Pleasant-run township, Lawrence county.

The bill to divorce Joseph Carpenter from his wife. The bill to vacate part of the addition to the town of Plymouth, in Martin county.  
The bill authorizing Judges of probate courts to take acknowledgements of deeds.  
The Senate then adjourned.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1845.  
FORENOON SESSION.  
On yesterday morning H. S. Scott, a member from the county of Fountain, appeared, produced his credentials and was sworn into office and took his seat.

Mr. Arnold reported against the expediency of publishing laws from after their passage, in some newspaper in Indianapolis.  
Mr. Baker said, the committee had not reported in pursuance of the resolution. It was an enquiry as to the expense of publication.

Mr. Hazlett said, it was impossible to know the number and length of the laws to be published.  
Mr. Thompson said, the expense of publication would be too great; which expense would, in most cases be obviated, by making it the duty of the Secretary of State, forthwith, to transmit copies to the counties interested.

Mr. Baker said, he was very sorry that the committee on expenditures had not yet reported the resolution. This committee might have arrived at some conclusion, from the general current of legislation, as to the length of laws. The Auditor of State finds no inconvenience in making a probable estimate of the expenditures of the State, and it is not generally wise of the clerk in asking such estimate. It was time that the system was changed, which compelled the people to live under laws they knew nothing about. Laws had been enacted which were not generally known, and the people were not aware of their rights until May, and some of the officers of his county had been indicted for not carrying them into effect.

The report of the committee on expenditures was not concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Baker the report was referred to a select committee.

Mr. McCormick reported a bill to divorce Jonathan Shambro; passed to a second reading.  
Mr. Wise reported a bill for the relief of John McIntire; which passed to a second reading.

Mr. Clymer reported a bill to incorporate the Union Medical Society of Northern Indiana; which was twice read and referred.

Mr. Tomlinson reported a bill declaring a county road a State road; passed to a second reading.  
By Mr. Clements, a bill to survey and locate a road from Robinson's Ferry to Harrison's Landing, Martin county.

By Mr. Wilson of Marion, a bill divorcing Frederick Harzill from his wife; passed to a second reading.  
By Mr. Turner, a bill to detach a portion of Grant county and attach it to Blackford; passed to a second reading.

Mr. Taber reported back the bill amending the act incorporating the Michigan Road Company with an amendment providing for issuing scrip in amounts of \$25; which amendment was not adopted.

Mr. Dowling moved to recommit the bill to a select committee; which motion prevailed, and Messrs. Downing, Taber and Smith were appointed said committee.

The bill to amend the act relating to the quarter sections was reported back from the select committee and laid on the table.

Mr. Hazlett reported a bill for the relief of the Wabash Manual Labor College, by giving five years additional time to pay the loan to the Shipping Fund, by paying interest at the rate of five per cent. in advance; which passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Riley, a bill for the relief of James Rutherford; passed to a second reading.

Mr. Carr, from the committee of ways and means, reported back the bill of the Senate, amending the Revised Statutes, in relation to sale of lands for taxes, so that a sale of one tract, shall not be a sale of another, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Carr also reported a bill for the relief of the borrowers of the Saline, Sinkin, surplus revenue and other funds, by extending the time of payment; which passed to a second reading.

Mr. Vandever offered a resolution, that the clerks of the House have leave to employ assistants when necessary; which was adopted.

Several other bills of the House were read and passed to the further action of the Senate.

By Mr. Noftinger, a resolution that the Auditor of State be requested to communicate to this House, without delay, the amount of money advanced by the State, under the law of 1836-7, providing for a general system of internal improvements, in the sale of canal lands, and all other State lands, with the amount of interest due for money expended on each work, and for which the people are liable; and also, the amount of tolls on each work coming into the State Treasury; which was adopted.

By Mr. Lewis, as to the expediency of allowing the owners of lands sold for taxes four years to redeem the same. Adopted.

Mr. Cook introduced a joint resolution for a reduction of the price of public lands; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Stapp, a bill for the relief of the widow and heirs of John Sering, deceased; twice read and referred.

By Mr. Fuller, a bill to remunerate justices for services on county board in Warwick; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. M' Rae, to legalize certain deeds in Crawford; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Tedford, to correct the boundary line of Richland county; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Edmondson, to amend the act relating to the White River Slack Water Navigation Company, read twice and referred.

By Mr. Blackwell, to amend an act allowing auditors twelve and a half cents for transfers of land, by abolishing the fee therefor in Ripley county; ordered to be engrossed.

By Mr. Mooney, in relation to fees of recorders and auditors in Jackson, Adams, and Jay—reducing fees of recorders and abolishing fee for transfer of lands; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Moore, to secure a more efficient management of the common school fund; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Parker, to provide for the more effectual punishment of certain offences in Allen county; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Leyman, to regulate the time of holding courts in Tippecanoe; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Leyman, to authorize the president and trustees of Lafayette to hold real estate; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Rippey, in relation to purchasers of real estate; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Harvey, authorizing Rhoda Butler to mortgage certain real estate; read first time.

By Mr. McCormick, to extend the time of the board doing county business in Tippecanoe; read first time.

By Mr. Logan, to change the time of holding the probate court in Pike county; read first time.

By Mr. Ellis, to extend the provisions of an act to Madison county; referred.

By Mr. Lanus, for the relief of the heirs of Michael Rice, deceased; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Cooke, to amend the act relating to peace act in relation to executions and transfers; referred.

By Mr. Webb, to repeal a section of revised statutes in relation to schools; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Thompson, to amend revised statutes in relation to habeas corpus; read first time.

By Mr. McDonald, to amend the revised statutes, in relation to stock and exchange brokers; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Wilson of S., relative to jurors in Sullivan county; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Stapp, to repeal a section of revised statutes in relation to apprentices; referred.

By Mr. Ferguson, defining the boundaries between Clark and Washington; referred to Messrs. Monroe, Ferguson and Shanks.

By Mr. Robinson, to amend the act incorporating the Michigan road company south of Indianapolis; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Taber, changing the time of holding probate courts in Cass county; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Davis, for the benefit of supervisors in Scott county; referred.

By Mr. Robinson, to repeal in part an act in relation to jurors in Decatur and Warren counties; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Edickoff, to extend provision of road law to Posey county; passed to a second reading.

By Mr. Wise, to amend the act relating to the Eastern cities, that was—the notice of preparation in the British ports, for some unexplained object, and private and confidential information received here, touching some of the plans of the British government. That these preparations, and for the supposed objects, are made by no means certain. On the other hand, it is rather probable that they are the result of ministerial policy, started with the expectation that they will be approved by Parliament; and that further authority will be given, as occasion shall be presented, for more definite action.

As matters now stand, it is pretty clear, that there must be a change of Ministry there, before diplomatic negotiations can be renewed; and the present Ministry cannot, with honor to themselves, surrender quietly that which they have so pertinaciously claimed.

That this nation will not recede from the ground taken by the administration, is very clear. The newspapers from all sections of the Union, where there has been time for the message to be received, as they came in, bring the most gratifying evidences of public opinion in favor of the position taken by the President. This is, with scarce an exception, without distinction of party.

Mr. Shanks reported amendments to the bill in relation to the re-arrangement of school lands, making the provisions of the bill general; which were concurred in and the bill passed.

Mr. Dowling, from the committee on canals, &c., reported back the bill in relation to leasing water power; which was ordered to be engrossed; also the bill for the relief of purchasers of canal lands in Cass; which was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Harvey reported back a bill in relation to a contractor on the Madison road, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to compel the White Water Valley Canal Company to make bridges was reported back from the committee on canals, &c., with a recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed.

After considerable discussion, in which Messrs. Cookerly, Cox, Baker, Dowling and Wiley participated, but before any decision was had thereon,  
The House adjourned until Monday morning at nine o'clock.

The bill to amend the act relating to the Revised Statutes in relation to the settlement of guardians; referred to the same committee.

The bill amendatory to the R. S. of 1843 relative to trespassing on the lands belonging to the United States; referred to the committee on claims.

The bill to change the names of Edward C. Hawkins and Edward Mussett; read three several times and passed.

To legalize the election of Russell Mitchell, a justice of the peace in Lawrence county.

To change the time of holding Courts in Adams county; read three several times and passed.

The bill to divorce Jonathan Castro and Nancy Castro; read three several times and passed.

To authorize the County Board of St. Joseph county to employ a physician for the poor; passed.

The Senate then adjourned.

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The bill of the Senate to provide for the improvement of roads in certain counties passed to a second reading.

The bill of the Senate to authorize the commissioners of the Wabash and Erie canal to employ a physician passed to a second reading.

The bill of the Senate to correct a misprint in an act in relation to the administrators of John Cook; read three times and passed.

Several other bills of the Senate were read and passed to the further action of the House.

It is not probable that much, if any, action will be taken by Congress, upon the subject, until after the holidays are over. This will give time for the message to have reached England, and an account of its reception there, to be returned. Should that government take the matter coolly, and behave rationally on the subject, nothing need occur to mar the friendly relations now existing between the two countries; and the facilities which justice or courtesy requires, will be extended to British subjects in Oregon or elsewhere, as liberally as heretofore. But should John Bull show his horns, and evince a disposition for coercive acts, I can assure you that the American Congress, and I am confident the American people, are ready for any measures which the exigency of the case may seem to require.

Should a war grow out of this matter, it will not be a small affair, nor terminate soon, or without great results. Other nations than the two who may originate it, will probably become involved, if not in this, in other contests growing out of it, or of measures connected with it. Here the contention may be, before it is terminated, not merely for the territory drained by the Columbia river, but for the whole North American continent. This is, of course, entirely speculative; but to me it is not difficult to foresee such a result. The other nations of Europe have watched with a jealous eye the movements of Great Britain—her rapid advancement in power—her grasping ambition, and her injustice and oppression to defenceless nations and people. They, too, have their grievances treasured up against her, and may, when they see her embarked in a contest with a nation like ours, deem it a fit occasion for them to step in, and claim withheld, on a return of sacrificed justice.

That a war would be a blessing to us, I am far from admitting; and I would regret that it should come. That we would be losers by such an one as I have supposed, I do not deny. But that we would have more at stake in it than Great Britain, or our risk be greater than hers, I do not believe. We are not what we were in the Revolution, nor as we were in the war of 1812. Our population has nearly quadrupled since the last—the finances of our government are in a healthy state—our facilities for producing the necessities for subsistence and material for carrying on a war, are not probably inferior to hers; while men can be spared here in ample abundance, without incurring danger of national starvation. If, therefore, she persist in forcing us into a measurement of strength, as an alternative for not relinquishing to her an important portion of our rights, on her let the responsibility rest.

I have said that Congress would not probably move in the Oregon question until after the holidays. In the mean time there will be no lack of industry on the part of the Departments, in making all reasonable preparation to meet any emergency; in which they will be aided by the views and opinions of many able representatives.

The Senate has not yet completed its organization—the election of the members of the several standing committees is yet to take place, for when that body adjourned last Thursday, only two of the committees were completed; that of Foreign Relations and of Finance. The election, to-morrow, will not proceed until an opportunity is afforded to Gen. Cass to call upon the resolutions submitted by him on Tuesday last, directing an inquiry, by the appropriate committees, into the state of our various defenses and fortifications, our navy, army, and militia; and also into the additions necessary to be made to our material of war. In calling the attention of the Senate to his resolutions, Gen. Cass will doubtless present an able view of the true state of our relations with England. The subject will be in good hands, and it is a fortunate occurrence for our country that he has taken the lead in this important investigation. Yours, TIMOLEON.

WASHINGTON,  
Dec. 16, 1845, 1 o'clock, P. M.  
MESSRS. CHAPMAN.—Gen. Cass did not reply this morning, as was expected, to those Senators who notified the Resolutions of inquiry, &c., but Senator Niles is now inflicting upon them a very calm and good sense exposition. He takes the ground that to put an end to the joint occupation, and to prepare for war are both peace measures, for that collisions must result from a joint occupation which was not contemplated by the parties as designed to extend into a populated period of the country of Oregon, and for that the best way to avoid war is to be prepared for it. Sensible.

The House, (the previous question having been ordered,) now voting by yeas and nays upon the engrossment of the resolutions admitting Texas as a State.

Twenty minutes past 1. The resolutions have been ordered to be engrossed, yeas 141, nays 57—majority 84. Some stumpers voted with the majority so as to get a chance to move a reconsideration, and thereby give his friends a chance to rock the floor and make a speech.

Some gentleman, (Rockwell of Massachusetts, I believe,) has got the floor and is going ahead. I say I believe, for it takes one some time to get to know the names and faces of 230 gentlemen.